



# November 03

The WCPCAN *Resource Update* contains information on training, resources, what's new at WCPCAN and announcements. This email is distributed to family resource programs currently and previously funded by WCPCAN, as well as WCPCAN members & partners. *Please be aware that the ideas and opinions expressed in the articles are those of the authors and may not represent the views of the members and staff of the Washington Council for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect.*

Current and archived versions are also available at: [www.wcpcan.wa.gov](http://www.wcpcan.wa.gov) – from the “What’s New” menu bar. If you ever have trouble opening the *Resource Update*, links, or embedded items, please contact me. Feel free to forward this to anyone who may be interested!

To subscribe, unsubscribe or submit items and feedback please contact me,

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### **Priority Topic Areas**

Note: Not every priority topic area will be covered in every update, but they will all be covered over the course of the year. Priority topics are as follows:

#### **Family Leadership**

#### **Fatherhood**

#### **Management/Organizational Development**

#### **Parent Education**

#### **Special Populations**

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## WCPCAN News

### *Help Put the Brakes on Child Abuse and Neglect*

#### ***"Keep Kids Safe" Proposed Specialty License Plate***

The Washington Council for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (WCPCAN) is supporting a citizen-led effort to introduce a specialty license plate to help safeguard children in Washington State.



The proposed plate, with the motto, **"Keep Kids Safe,"** is a reminder that every child deserves a childhood free from abuse and neglect in order to grow into a happy, healthy, thriving adult. Proceeds from the special license plate sales will go to **The Children's Trust Fund of Washington** in support of the **prevention of child abuse and neglect.**

A [petition](#) containing the names, addresses and signatures of at least **2,000** adults is required to notify the Department of Licensing's office that you support the concept of the special license plate series, **"Keep Kids Safe,"** in Washington State. The information acquired in the signature sheet will only be used to notify you when the license plates are available in Washington and is not a confirmation of order.

Please feel free to download this [petition](#) and use it to help show your support for the safety of our children. Instructions for sending in completed petitions are included on the sheet.

**With your support, we can help put the "brakes" on child abuse and neglect and give Washington children the license to live healthy, happy lives.**

[How You Can Help](#)

[Signature Sheet](#)

For more information about the **Keep Kids Safe** specialty license plate campaign, please contact:

Bernie Dorsey 206-799-7050 [bernie.dorsey@comcast.net](mailto:bernie.dorsey@comcast.net)  
Denise Isings 253-740-4838 [Krisosmom1@aol.com](mailto:Krisosmom1@aol.com)

## **Help Us Build Awareness and Protect Washington Children**

### **Sign On to be a partner for the Blue Ribbon Campaign**

Each April, people across the country join together during National Child Abuse Prevention Month to help raise awareness of the tragedy of child abuse and neglect and to promote ways in which together we can prevent these occurrences in our communities. As one of the organizations leading this campaign in our state, the Washington Council for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (WCPCAN) would like to invite you to take part in this year's activities.

As campaign partners, collaborating organizations leverage shared resources for greater impact. The blue ribbon used in the campaign is a symbol used nationwide to raise awareness about Child Abuse Prevention Month. Washington's statewide Blue Ribbon campaign has one clear message: **Keep Kids Safe.**



Your participation could make a world of difference in the life of a child, a family or community. Your role as a partner can range from agreeing to share the message with employees to financing production of promotional materials. When you agree to partner, your organization will be identified along with our growing list of collaborative participants and invited to participate at whatever level you choose in planning and decision making. Your involvement would be greatly appreciated. If you have an interest in participating in the campaign and being identified as a partner -- or just want more information -- please let us know.

Contact Chris Jamieson, WCPCAN Public Affairs Manager, at 206-389-2412 or [jamiecd@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:jamiecd@dshs.wa.gov).



CAP Month Fact  
Sheet.doc

## Upcoming Training & Conferences

### Conferences & Presentations

#### ***Perspectives: Annual Family Policy Council Network Partner's Summit*** **November 17 – 19 ~ Silverdale Red Lion**

The featured speaker is Dr. Vincent Felitti, Medical Director at Kaiser Permanente. Dr. Felitti partnered with the Centers for Disease Control to explore how adverse childhood experience (CAN, witnessing domestic violence, mental illness/substance abuse in a parent, or loss of a parent) affects adult health. Also invited is Dr. Martin Teicher – a featured presenter at the Summit last year. Registration fee is \$200 for hotel, food and conference, \$100 for food and conference only.

<http://www.wa.gov/fpc/FPCEvents.html>

#### **Zero to Three National Training Institute ~ December 5 – 7 ~ New Orleans**

Join us in New Orleans for the 18th annual National Training Institute and a celebration of ZERO TO THREE's 25th Anniversary! Attendees will find internationally known leaders and experts leading sessions that will educate, challenge, and inspire them in their work with young children and families. For up-to-date information about registration, exhibits, and other aspects of the National Training Institute, please visit our Web site at [www.zerotothree.org](http://www.zerotothree.org)

#### **18th Annual San Diego Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment (Chadwick Center for Children and Families); January 26 through 30, San Diego, CA;**

[www.charityadvantage.com/chadwickcenter/2004conference.asp](http://www.charityadvantage.com/chadwickcenter/2004conference.asp)

#### **The Washington Alliance for Better Schools ~ *Partnering for Success*. ~ January 27, 8:00 to 4:30 ~ Shoreline Center, Shoreline**

The confirmed keynoter is Karen L. Mapp, Ed.D, President of the Institute for Responsive Education. She is the author of "Making the Connection between Families and Schools," published by the *Harvard Education Letter* (1997). She recently has co-authored with Anne Henderson *A New Wave Of Evidence: The Impact of School, Family and Community Connections on Student Achievement*, published by the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory. Most recently she has published "Having Their Say: Parents Describe How and Why They Are Engaged in Their Children's Learning" in *The School Community Journal*.

[http://www.newhorizons.org/ofc\\_wabs.html](http://www.newhorizons.org/ofc_wabs.html)

**Jan 30-Feb 1, 2004 ~ Western Migrant Stream Forum ~ Seattle**

Contact: 206-783-3004 ~ URL: <http://www.nwrpca.org>

Email: [apowell@nwrpca.org](mailto:apowell@nwrpca.org)

Hold the date for the 13th annual migrant stream forum. Last year, more than 200 health center clinical and administrative staff, outreach workers and board members, as well as researchers, farm workers and students gathered for this popular and successful Forum. Thanks to these events, hundreds of professionals and advocates have the opportunity to network, obtain information about the latest trends, and acquire education in the areas of farm worker health, policy, and research. More information will be available in the near future regarding this year's Forum.

**"Babies Brains Blocks and Books" ~ Sponsored by FACES East (Families and Children Early Support) ~ Saturday, February 7, 2004 ~ Bellevue Community College**

A conference for early childhood educators, families, and caregivers of young children

Contact Sue Ferguson for more information: [sferguso@bcc.ctc.edu](mailto:sferguso@bcc.ctc.edu)

**Mar 17-19, 2004 ~10th Annual Northwest Regional Parenting Conference ~Vancouver, Washington**

<http://www.emmps.wsu.edu/parenting/>

Anyone who is interested in improving the parenting experience should attend.

**Scholarships for WPCAN funded Programs are available – Contact Maria at 206-389-3297 or [gehlmj@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:gehlmj@dshs.wa.gov) for details.**



**National Children's Advocacy Center 20<sup>th</sup> National Symposium on Child Abuse ~ March 16-19, 2004 ~ Huntsville, Alabama.**

For more information, refer to our website at <http://www.nationalcac.org/>

**Infant and Early Childhood Conference ~ April 28 – 30 ~ Bellevue, WA**

[www.ieccwa.org](http://www.ieccwa.org)

**Family Support America's 10th Biennial National Conference, May 12-15, 2004.** To be held in the heart of downtown Chicago's Magnificent Mile, the conference is the premiere gathering of family support professionals, advocates, parent leaders, and others who work to strengthen and support families.

[Visit our Web site often for updates](#)



**LOCAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE OFFERINGS**

**FREE LIBERAL ARTS EDUCATION FOR LOW INCOME ADULTS**

Beginning in January, low income adults will be able to take a free evening class at Edmonds Community College that includes study of art history, moral philosophy, United States history, literature, critical thinking and writing as well as field trips to galleries, museums and public lectures. Books, childcare and transportation are also provided at no cost.

The first New Horizons through the Humanities class will accept 25 students. Those interested should be at least 18 years old, able to read a newspaper in English and from a low-income family. There will be class assignments but no tests and no grades. Participants who successfully complete the course will receive 12

college credits from Edmonds Community College and may be eligible for scholarships should they decide to continue their education.

For more information or to apply call Lela Hilton, 206-799-2833 or email [lhilton@edcc.edu](mailto:lhilton@edcc.edu).

### **TRAIN Destination and Next Stops**

#### **Training Resource and Interactive Network**

The following are the anticipated goals and outcomes of the TRAIN project that currently are being designed and implemented by the TRAIN Advisory Committee.

1. Develop a long-term sustainability plan for the TRAIN project. A 50/50 match was required for the grant, so other organizations, agencies, and individuals will be included to provide in-kind or financial contributions.
2. Develop a subscriber/member-base to support long-term sustainability plans. Services will be available to both the public and some services will be available only to subscribing members. The subscriber services and a tiered fee structure targeted to both trainers and organizations are currently being developed. Beginning in January, subscriber services will require a fee, but until then all services will be available at no cost.
3. Statewide Training Database: Develop a comprehensive statewide database of trainings available for professionals serving children, youth and families. The statewide training calendar/database is currently available for anyone to view and to post any relevant training at this time. You can post trainings directly through the website, [www.washingtontrain.org](http://www.washingtontrain.org). We encourage people to also spread the word to others to post their trainings on the TRAIN website so it will become the inclusive and comprehensive resource we envision.
4. Statewide Trainer Database: Develop a statewide database of trainers. The public will be able to search for and sort information about individual trainers and agencies that offer trainings. For an individual or agency to be listed in the TRAIN Trainer Database they will eventually need to become a subscribing member.
5. Implement 'Train the Trainer' educational pathways at a statewide convention. A 'Train the Trainer' track has been developed for the Washington AEYC conference in Bellevue in October 2003 and 9 workshops will be offered in both 1-1/2 hour and 3-hour sessions.
6. Increase collaboration; identify gaps in and duplication of trainings, and to allow caregivers to access the full range of educational opportunities available to them.
7. Establish a listserv to provide quick interactive information sharing.
8. The Trainer Network. TRAIN is currently designing monthly trainer networking opportunities to promote the professional development of trainers. These subscriber services may include regional facilitated discussions, conference calls, and meetings, mentor/coaching partnerships and training opportunities to learn professional training skills, strategies, and models for beginning to veteran trainers.
9. Produce and distribute a quarterly newsletter, addressing the needs of trainers and to support the coordination and collaboration of statewide training efforts. Their first newsletter is available online at <http://www.washingtontrain.org/newsletter01.htm>

## **Advocacy Resources**

**Healthy Families America**, a program of PCA America, recently launched its new website, which can be found at <http://www.healthyfamiliesamerica.org>. The site includes a comprehensive section on advocacy, which details guidelines for engaging in policy/advocacy and examples of innovative advocacy strategies. For those interested in

learning directly from HFA state systems advocates, check out the site's Peer Mentoring Network, an interactive technical assistance tool that facilitates the exchange of advocacy information between programs.

**From Seth Dawson, [SethDawson@worldnet.att.net](mailto:SethDawson@worldnet.att.net)**

Below are some regional workshops on legislative advocacy that some of my clients have asked me to help provide. Everyone interested is welcome to attend, however. The sessions will cover the basics to advanced considerations regarding the legislative process and how people can most effectively influence it, as well as the extent to which employees of nonprofits can engage in advocacy. There is no cost as such, although people will be invited to make contributions to the Children's Campaign Fund.

**Thursday, November 13, at 7:30 pm at the Garden Room of Delaware Plaza, 926 Delaware in Longview.** Just let me know if you are attending and if you need directions.

**Thursday, November 20, at 7 pm in Meeting Room "A" at the Olympic Medical Center, located at 9th and Caroline Streets in Port Angeles.** Again, just let me know if you plan on coming.

**Tuesday, December 9, from 1 - 3 pm at the Opportunity Council (1111 Cornwall Ave) in downtown Bellingham.** Again, please advise if you would like to participate.



## Evaluation Resources

**Innovation Network** is pleased to announce its newly improved and redesigned website, [www.innonet.org](http://www.innonet.org). The need for practical and useful evaluation tools has never been greater. Please visit our site for immediate and free help in designing your program and your evaluation.

New and updated features include:

- \* An updated resources section, featuring the Evaluation Resource Center
- \* Ongoing evaluation and feedback capabilities, with feedback options built into every page
- \* Updated content about Innovation Network and our services
- \* A new layout designed to help website users find what they're looking for easily and quickly
- \* A new design that incorporates our new logo and organizational identity



## Sustainability and Resource Opportunities

**The A.L. Mailman Family Foundation** funds projects of national or regional import in the early childhood field. The foundation is especially interested in projects that improve systems of care; engage and inform families; mitigate the effects of poverty on young children; build community support and involvement; develop tools and materials that are needed in the field; and promulgate effective approaches to fostering emotional, social, and moral development.

The foundation has three national grant making areas: Early Care and Education; Family Support; and Moral Education and Social Responsibility.

The following are objectives of the Family Support area:

1. Increase the family-friendliness, supportiveness, cultural responsiveness, and strength-based vision of family-serving programs and institutions, public policies, and communities.
2. Engage and inform parents as partners, decision-makers, advocates, and caregivers.



3. Reduce poverty (and its effects) for young children and their families.

The current priorities are family-friendly systems; connecting with parents; serving all families; professional development; leadership; and community-building.

The following are objectives of the Moral Education and Social Responsibility area:

1. Promote and support early experiences for all children that lay a firm groundwork for social and emotional learning.

2. Promote early and continuing learning experiences for children that facilitate resistance to prejudice and violence, appreciation of individual differences and human commonalities, assumption of social responsibility, and skills in caregiving and positive conflict resolution.

3. Support innovative approaches that promote engagement of children, families, and public and private institutions in building diverse, caring communities.

The current priorities are anti-bias education; violence prevention; early emotional development; building community; and teaching care.

URL for more information:

<http://www.mailman.org/apply/apply.htm>

#### **Project Lift-Off Opportunity Fund Request for Proposals for 2004.**

We are pleased to announce this expansion of our work to build systems that support family, friend and neighbor caregivers and the parents who rely on this type of child care in **King County**.



ffn2003RFPfinal.doc

**The deadline for final proposals is November 26, 2003**

If you have any questions, e-mail or call Nancy Ashley [nancyashley@heliotropeseattle.com](mailto:nancyashley@heliotropeseattle.com) or Christina Malecka at 206-526-5671.

**The Healthy Tomorrows Partnership for Children Program (HTPCP)** is a collaborative grant program funded by the federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau and administered with the assistance of the American Academy of Pediatrics. The grants awarded through this program support community-based child health projects that improve the health status of mothers, infants, children, and adolescents by increasing their access to health services.

Healthy Tomorrows grant awards are for approximately \$50,000 per year for a five year project period. The goal of Healthy Tomorrows is to encourage community-based solutions to local problems.

Some of the services provided by the Healthy Tomorrows projects include:

\*Primary care for uninsured children and children insured through the Medicaid program \*Intervention and care coordination services for children with special health needs \*Expanded perinatal care and parent education services.

For more information on the Healthy Tomorrows Program for Children Project, go to:

<http://www.aap.org/advocacy/fact03.htm>

#### **THE FOUNDATION CENTER'S "GUIDE TO PROPOSAL WRITING" - IN SPANISH!**

This new Spanish-language edition of The Foundation Center's popular "Guide to Proposal Writing" delivers comprehensive instruction on both the basics and the finer points of this crucial skill. Based on

recent interviews with grantmakers, the "Guide" provides insight into the grant decision-making process as well as the many technological strides made in the grantmaking community.

"Guía para escribir propuestas" also features a special appendix listing consultants and technical assistance providers who can help Spanish speakers craft proposals in English, or give advice on fundraising. To read more features about this new book and view the table of contents, go to <http://fdncenter.org/marketplace/>.

## Priority Topic Areas

### Early Childhood Education

#### **Building Literacy from the Ground up -- The Parents as Teachers Model**

According to some studies, middle-class children enter first grade having spent over 1,000 hours sharing a book with an adult, while low income children have experienced just 25 hours. An evaluation of the national Parents as Teachers (PAT) program finds its curriculum effective for helping low-income parents build strong literacy environments for their very young children. (from Connect for Kids)



<http://www.patnc.org/pdf%20files/Report%20of%20Literacy%20Content%20Analysis.pdf>

#### **Bankers Say Put Your Money on Young Kids**

Child advocates say investing in early childhood education is the right thing to do for kids -- and they now have a new ally in economists, who say it's a sound investment with returns that result in more savings to society than any other social program. (See, "'Invest in kids' taken literally.") (from Connect for Kids)

<http://www.twincities.com/mld/pioneerpress/7089031.htm>

### Family Leadership

#### **Parent Involvement and Leadership: Study Findings and Implications for the Field Executive Summary**

The Minnesota Department of Children, Families and Learning and the Children's Trust Fund program, began conversations with MELD, Council for Civic Parent Leadership and PCA Minnesota in a quest to determine the range of positive impacts for involved parents. They asked, "*What, if any, is the impact of parent involvement in the lives of children and families?*" The organizations met quarterly for two years to determine common experiences, define parent involvement, and develop surveys for past and present program participants. A continuum of parent involvement was developed which eventually informed the questions for each organizational survey. The result is a synthesis of the findings identifying the implications for parents, agencies, communities and the field of family support.

#### **Synthesizing the Three Studies**

The synthesis of the study involved compiling results from surveys and identifying commonalities of the impact of involvement as reported by parents. The findings determined that there are short and long term impacts and parents gained greater knowledge, skills and confidence beyond parenting skills. Positive impacts were identified for parents, children, families, parents as employees, schools, communities, and organizations involved in family support.

Responses from parents indicated short and long-term impact in all categories. It is important to note that while the impact for some parents was intentional, most others acquired skills and knowledge that were unintentional but later recognized after their initial involvement with the program.



## Implications for the Field

In addition, the survey results produced implications for the family support field in what motivates parents to become involved, and the groundwork necessary for development of future leadership.

- Capitalizing on personal relationships is an effective strategy for involving parents in programs and leadership opportunities
- The journey of parent involvement and leadership begins in the heart
- Consistent training and support are essential to nurturing parent leadership
- Offering a ladder of opportunities within an organization allows parents to stay involved and grow as leaders

The organizations involved in this study all purposefully integrated the groundwork necessary for future leadership by developing partnerships with parents that are inherently supportive, educational and respectful. Through these consistent efforts leaders are developed.

## Conclusion

Parental involvement produces significant and benefits for children, families, employers, and communities that can be documented. Most successful when consistently supported (philosophically, financially, logistically), parental involvement produces positive engagement behavior that is sustained beyond the specific timeframe of child rearing.

## Fatherhood

### New Training Curriculum Helps Involve Fathers in Their Children's Lives

The National Family Preservation Network (NFPN) recently released a first-of-its-kind "**Fatherhood Training Curriculum**" to help child welfare professionals engage fathers more effectively. After a 2-year study of the child welfare system, NFPN concluded the system was primarily geared toward mothers and their children, leaving fathers largely out of the picture. NFPN uncovered no written policies, resources, or training curricula in the child welfare system to help involve fathers in their children's lives. The new 70-page curriculum was created to fill that gap. Topics covered by the curriculum include:

- \*What do we know about fatherhood?
- \*Current child welfare practice regarding fathers
- \*Agency assessment and policies
- \*Communicating with fathers
- \*Principles of practice (including case examples)
- \*Evaluation tools

More information about the curriculum can be found on the NFPN Web site at

<http://www.nfpn.org/tools/curriculum.html>. The curriculum costs \$50 and can be ordered online from NFPN at <http://www.nfpn.org/resources/publications.html> or by writing to:

Priscilla Martens, Executive Director  
National Family Preservation Network  
3971 North 1400 E.  
Buhl, ID 83316

### **NEW video on Fatherhood engagement** now available from the I Am Your Child Foundation:

To be a Father. New research has shown that fathers can have an enormous impact on children -- from how well they succeed in school, to how they get along with their friends. This generation of dads is responding to the challenge, by taking a more active role in everything from changing diapers to helping

with homework. And it's paying off, as you'll hear from men who talk about the rewards of being close to their kids. Hosted by Ray Romano, this video includes information about the important role fathers can play in the lives of their young children. The original Spanish version, hosted by Antonio Banderas, will be available soon! This project was made possible through the generous support of The California Endowment. Order online at [www.iamyourchild.org](http://www.iamyourchild.org) or call 1-888-447-3400.

### **Responsible Fatherhood Programs Yield Promising Results**

The Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE), and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation in the Department of Health and Human Services today jointly released a report showing that responsible fatherhood programs in eight states showed promising results both in economic and personal terms.

The report, "OCSE Responsible Fatherhood Programs: Client Characteristics and Program Outcomes," evaluated programs carried out in eight states between September 1997 and December 2002. The programs carried out comprehensive activities designed to assist and motivate unemployed or low-income fathers who have child support orders to pay support. The fathers were given training and help in finding employment, paying child support and developing relationships with their children.

The responsible fatherhood services resulted in:

- Increased employment rates, ranging from 8 to 33 percent, especially for those who were unemployed previously;
- Increased incomes, ranging from 25 to 250 percent, especially for those who were unemployed previously;
- Increased child support compliance, ranging from 4 to 31 percent; primarily for those who had not been paying previously;
- Increased time spent with children; 27 percent of the fathers reported seeing their children more often after the program.

The report also suggests that the child support program should be more sensitive to the limitations of low income non-custodial parents in the establishment of child support orders. For example, for the very poor, (earnings less than \$6,000 a year) current child support obligations and arrearages were found to be from two to six times greater than their reported earnings. For those with earnings of \$6,000 to \$12,000 a year, current child support and arrearages were 21 to 61 percent of reported earnings, depending upon the site. These findings are consistent with a recent OCSE analysis indicating that 70 percent of arrearages that states report to OCSE for enforcement actions such as passport denial and tax refund intercept are owed by persons with reported earnings under \$10,000 a year. The full report is available on the OCSE web site at: <http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cse/>

## **Management / Organizational Development**

**Tools For Sustaining Growth** - Come interact with local and national as experts share practical methods and tools for sustaining growth. This conference is designed for Nonprofit Board Members, Executive Directors, Fund Developers, Finance Directors and Managers, Bookkeepers, Program and Project Staff, Consultants Friday, November 21, 2003, 8:30 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

Keynote Speaker: Bob Rosner

Best selling author, internationally syndicated columnist and dynamic speaker, Bob Rosner is a unique authority on today's toughest survival challenges in the workplace. A humorous and memorable speaker, Bob will present practical tools to deal with specific challenges to create a sense of community, provide insight, inspiration and to entertain. [Click here for more information and registration form.](#)

**Strategies for Weathering the Storm - WSCPA Not-for-Profit Conference**

Dec 3-4, full days, \$125-\$325 [www.wscpa.org/wscpa/p3.htm](http://www.wscpa.org/wscpa/p3.htm)

## Marketing for Nonprofits

Dec 11, 9am-4pm, \$145, GB3 Group, [www.gb3group.com/training/mfn-se.htm](http://www.gb3group.com/training/mfn-se.htm)

### The Cost of a Volunteer

Most nonprofit organizations recognize that although volunteers are one of the most valuable resources they have, nothing good is free. That's why the Grantmaker Forum on Community & National Service (GFCNS) decided to explore the question: What does it cost to mount an effective, high-quality volunteer program? The organization conducted lengthy surveys of 21 of the most respected volunteer programs in the country, including everything from after school programs to animal shelters, and analyzed the results. Questions focused on volunteer program history, numbers of volunteers, program funding and costs, and strategies for volunteer recruitment, training, and supervision. An appendix to the report includes brief profiles of every organization surveyed.

To download a PDF version of this report and others offered by GFCNS, visit [www.gfcns.org/gfcns/publications/index.html](http://www.gfcns.org/gfcns/publications/index.html). (From WeR4Kidz)



## Prevention Programs

### LATEST FINDINGS IN CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

A partnership of Rutgers University, the US Department of Health and Human Services, and the Annie E. Casey Foundation produces a series of short, non-partisan bulletins for policymakers, advocates, and clinicians, and others who care about the well-being of children. According to this first study to provide reliable, national estimates of young children's use of mental health services, **some of the nation's most troubled are teenagers who are severely emotionally disturbed and often victims of abuse or neglect.** Many become "system kids," separated from their families for long periods of time as they shuttle from one residential care

program to another in search of the mental health services they need. Complete details can be found in the Summer 2003 Issue Brief (Vol. 2, No. 1)

<http://www.ihhpcpar.rutgers.edu/downloads/summer2003.pdf>

### More Proof: Home Visiting Helps Reduce Child Abuse

Based on the strong evidence that home visiting can reduce child maltreatment by an average 40 percent, the Task Force on Community Preventive Services (a nonfederal panel of health-care and community-based prevention experts supported by the CDC ) recommends early childhood home visitation for the prevention of child abuse and neglect. Programs of longer duration and those that provide trained personnel tend to have greater impact on reducing violence against children.

<http://www.thecommunityguide.org/violence/viol-int-homevisit.pdf>

Families considered at high risk of child maltreatment include those with low birth weight infants, or with single, young, or low-income mothers. Home-visitation programs include training of parent(s) on prenatal and infant care, training on parenting, child abuse and neglect prevention, family planning assistance, development of problem solving and life skills for parents, and linkage with community services.

The full report entitled " First Reports Evaluating the Effectiveness of Strategies for Preventing Violence: Early Childhood Home Visitation" can be viewed on line at: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr>.

## Special Populations

### Infant Mortality Statistics from the 2001 Period Linked Birth/Infant Death Data Set

A new report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shows that the 2001 infant mortality rate in the United States reached a record low of 6.8 per 1,000 live births. The three leading causes of infant death were congenital malformations, low birth weight, and sudden infant death syndrome, which together accounted for 44 percent of all infant deaths.

Driving the decline in infant mortality was the substantial drop in sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), down 11 percent from 2000 to 2001. SIDS was down 12 percent for white mothers, 21 percent for all Hispanic mothers, and 27 percent for Mexican-American mothers, the largest single decline. **In 2001 the SIDS rate for infants of black and American Indian mothers was more than double that of non-Hispanic white mothers.**

The report documents other significant patterns in infant mortality:

**Infant mortality rates were higher for infants whose mothers had no prenatal care, were teenagers, had less education, were unmarried, or smoked during pregnancy.**

Infant mortality rates are higher for male infants, multiple births, and infants born preterm or at low birthweight.

*Infant Mortality Statistics from the 2001 Period Linked Birth/Infant Death Data Set* presents detailed data on infant mortality rates by race and ethnicity, leading causes of death, infant characteristics such as birthweight, and maternal factors such as receipt of prenatal care. For more details go to: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/linked.htm>

## Additional Resources

**Innocenti Research Center**, an Italy-based research group associated with UNICEF, recently reported that young children raised in the United States, Mexico, and Portugal are more likely to die from neglect and maltreatment than children in other industrialized nations. The report, *A League Table of Child Maltreatment Deaths in Rich Nations*, can be ordered for \$12 at the following site: <http://www.unicef-icdc.org/>.

### FREE “CHILDREN’S PROGRAM KIT”


The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s ([www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)) Center for Substance Abuse Prevention ([www.samhsa.gov/centers/csap/csap.html](http://www.samhsa.gov/centers/csap/csap.html)) has begun distributing a free “Children’s Program Kit” to help parents and professionals provide support to children of alcohol and drug addicted parents. The toolkit includes

- a children’s support program curriculum for children in grades K–12;
- a program manual that includes start-up instructions, research-based tools, and program evaluation materials; and
- four dynamic videos illustrating concepts such as coping skills, problem solving, and social competence.

This kit incorporates years of research and hands-on experience from consumers and professionals helping children overcome the problems associated with living in a home where alcohol and drug abuse is prevalent. To order, call 800/729-6686 and ask for the “Children’s Program Kit” #CPKIT, or order online at <http://ncadi.samhsa.gov/promos/coa/>. (from WeR4kidz)

## Violence in the Lives of Children

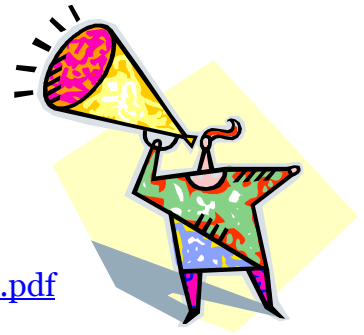
Child Trends introduced a new series called CrossCurrents in August. This new series of data briefs from the Child Trends DataBank offers a look across a variety of related indicators of child well-being. The first issue, Violence in the Lives of Children, presents a broad overview of the incidence of many types of violence affecting the lives of children and youth.

Violence in the Lives of Children is available on the 

## Announcements

**The UW Center on Infant Mental Health** is pleased to announce the launching of "Centerlines," a vehicle for sharing research findings, clinical strategies and new developments in the field of infant mental health, in order that parents, practitioners, policy makers and caregivers can have the knowledge they need to provide more effective care for infants and their families. For an on-line look at the first issue, please go to:

[http://depts.washington.edu/chdd/ucedd/CIMHD\\_Color\\_Newsletter\\_vol1.1.pdf](http://depts.washington.edu/chdd/ucedd/CIMHD_Color_Newsletter_vol1.1.pdf)



### **Prevent Child Abuse America Launches New Website**

Healthy Families America works to prevent child maltreatment in families with children birth to five years old. This newly designed Web site has state-specific information, evaluation studies and information to help advocates and concerned citizens expand and improve these services that help support new families.

<http://www.healthyfamiliesamerica.org/home/index.shtml>

### **WB Supports Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect on "7TH HEAVEN"!**

Recently, Prevent Child Abuse (PCA) California provided posters, brochures and other materials that will be used on the set of the 7th Heaven television show on the Warner Brothers Network. The episode that will air on November 24, 2003 at 8:00 PM will focus on child abuse. PCA California served as a resource for this show so that the voice of our abused and neglected children could be heard. Contact the WB to thank them for their public awareness support on the epidemic of child abuse and neglect! Send an e-mail to: [faces@thewb.com](mailto:faces@thewb.com)

### **The National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information is pleased to announce the launch of its newly redesigned Web site!**

Our new Web address will be <http://nccanch.acf.hhs.gov>

The new design addresses challenges identified in extensive testing of the Web site by you, our customers, while maintaining the features and content from the old site that you expect to find. The new site also encourages users to provide feedback through "Give Us Suggestions" and "Rate this Publication" features. Other notable improvements include:

- Reorganization of the site around child welfare topics
- Improved search features that provide a more comprehensive list of child welfare resources on your topic of interest
- A new section on the home page to quickly link you to the site's most popular resources
- Information and resources for your particular State
- Online ordering of hundreds of publications distributed by the Clearinghouse

The Clearinghouses are services of the Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. †



# April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Help Us Build Awareness and Protect Washington Children

## CAP MONTH COMMUNITY FACT SHEET

The following examples from campaign partners show how you can help support children in Washington during Child Abuse Prevention Month:

- In 2003, **Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center** provided a feature article that reached a circulation of 40,000 readers in their "Good Growing" newsletter. Hospital employees also received information in their paychecks, reaching an additional 3000 people.
- In keeping with the "Keep Kids Safe" campaign message, the **Salvation Army** implemented a new background check process in 2003 to identify criminal histories of adults who work with children. This new process helped to remove several potential at-risk adults from programs throughout the state.
- **Parent Trust for Washington Children** reaches over 1500 families each year with prevention information and distributes blue ribbons year around in an effort to make every month Child Abuse Prevention Month.
- **King County Dependency CASA** focuses on securing media coverage. One success has been an annual one-hour roundtable conversation on child abuse prevention televised by the Trinity Broadcast Network. The show airs several times throughout April.
- **WCPCAN** utilizes its web site to provide Child Abuse Prevention Month information via an on-line Tool Kit that includes the capacity to order products electronically. In one month, WCPCAN had over 1700 visitors to its site and has provided resources to over 180 organizations throughout the state. In 2002, WCPCAN counted 35 of 39 counties with CAP month activities.
- **Washington State CASA** makes Child Abuse Prevention Month information available to all of their volunteers who serve over 6,500 children throughout the state. In 2003, CASA volunteers in Longview worked with the Longview Herald newspaper to distribute over 50,000 blue ribbons to their readers.

**Each and every one of us can help make a difference in the life of a child.**

**Please consider involving your organization in the fight to end child abuse and neglect in Washington by becoming a Child Abuse Prevention Month partner.**

### The Blue Ribbon Story

*In the spring of 1989, a Virginia grandmother, Bonnie Finney, began the blue ribbon campaign as a tribute to her grandson. The three-year-old died at the hands of his mother's abusive boyfriend. Since that time, concerned citizens all over the country have worn the blue ribbon as a symbol of the need to prevent child abuse and neglect.*

*Please wear the blue ribbon during April to show your support for children and families.*

**For more information about how to prevent child abuse and neglect, call the Washington Council for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect at (206) 464-6151 or visit our website at [www.wcpcan.wa.gov](http://www.wcpcan.wa.gov).**

### Our Mission:

*To increase public awareness about child neglect and abuse through the Washington State Blue Ribbon Campaign to "Keep Kids Safe."*